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tion of what was there told so well. As a work of art, the story is very charming. The characters are distinctly drawn, and there is variety of scene and rapidity of movement enough to give the whole a dramatic effect. In the vivacity of their stories, it must be confessed that the French excel the writers of other nations, even where moral purity is sadly lacking. Prosper Mérimée and Edmond About, however, are writers of a different class from Eugene Sue and Alexander Dumas. Such tales as "Colomba" and "Tolla" may be read without a blush by the most modest woman. There is an intense reality about them, and no straining for effect by any meretricious contrivance. Who the translator is we are not informed, but it is clearly one who knows how to deal with the niceties of the French tongue. There is no language which it is so easy to translate poorly, and so hard to translate well, as the French.

The volume is printed in that exquisite old English style which several of our more fastidious publishers have chosen of late. We are glad, however, to notice that all the peculiarities of that style are not reproduced, especially the antique form of the "double s," which resembled "f" so nearly.

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5. — *History of Plymouth Plantation*. By WILLIAM BRADFORD, the second Governor of the Colony. Now first printed from the Original Manuscript, for the Massachusetts Historical Society. Published at the Charge of the Appleton Fund. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co. 1856. 8vo. pp. 476.

THIS History, which commences with the emigration of the Puritans to Holland, and terminates abruptly in 1646, was written by the very man who was best qualified for the task. A Puritan from his boyhood, an exile at eighteen, a passenger in the Mayflower, for thirty-one years Governor of the Colony, and confessedly a man of equal intelligence and probity, — in a community, too, so restricted that no adult member could have been unknown to the chief magistrate, and no event could have transpired without his cognizance, — he may be trusted implicitly in his entire narrative, and its bulk and minuteness furnish the measure of its value. It was used by Morton, Prince, Hubbard, and Hutchinson, but for nearly ninety years it vanished from sight, and was supposed to be irrecoverably lost. Early in the year 1855, Rev. John S. Barry showed Mr. Deane, the editor of the volume before us, "A History of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America, by Samuel, Lord Bishop of Oxford," printed in 1846. In the text of this History oc-

curred certain passages, cited by Morton and Prince from Bradford, and accredited by the author to a "MS. History of the Plantation of Plymouth, &c., in the Fulham Library." Mr. Barry and Mr. Deane concurred in the conclusion, that this Fulham manuscript could be no other than the long-lost History. Fulham is the summer residence of the Bishop of London, and through his courtesy the manuscript was put into the hands of an agent of the Massachusetts Historical Society. It was readily identified as Bradford's autograph. The chirography corresponded with that of a letter known to be in his hand. On one of the blank leaves was found the following memorandum: "This book was rit by goefner William Bradford, and gifen to his son mager William Bradford, and by him to his son mager John Bradford, rit by me Samuel Bradford, Mach 20, 1705." On another leaf was a note under Prince's signature, relating the mode in which the book came into his possession. The evidence is thus complete as to its genuineness. Its details are minute, and its dates are carefully indicated. Its contents embrace every incident of real or reputed importance connected with the voyage from Holland, the landing in New England, and the early fortunes of the colonists. It is printed with literal exactness, and our confidence in the printed text is enhanced by a *fac-simile* of a portion of the first chapter, in a hand singularly fair and legible. The publication has been made in a form and style worthy of its importance. While it is a rare *bonne bouche* for the antiquary, it will be read with strong and grateful interest by all who trace their descent, their liberties, or their spiritual lineage to the Pilgrim stock.

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6. — *Memoirs of RICHARD CUMBERLAND, written by himself. Containing an Account of his Life and Writings, interspersed with Anecdotes and Characters of several of the most Distinguished Persons of his Time, with whom he had Intercourse and Connection. With Illustrative Notes.* By HENRY FLANDERS. Philadelphia: Parry and McMillan. 1856. 8vo. pp. 397.

CUMBERLAND occupied, as many of our readers are well aware, a somewhat distinguished position as a dramatic writer in the last century, was for many years a faithful official of the British Cabinet, and subsequently undertook, with equal integrity of purpose, lack of diplomatic tact, and failure of the contemplated results, an important mission to the Spanish court. He was a man of rigid virtue and high principle, but of inordinate self-esteem and irritable temper. His life was chiefly